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DO KIDS LEARN FROM EDUCATIONAL TOYS?

{page 16}



MOOSE MUZZLED LOSE IN A SHOOTOUT

{page 21}

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News worth sharing.



Lions roar to Grey Cup win

- B.C. becomes just the fourth team in CFL history to hoist the historic trophy at home
► Travis Lulay named MVP after leading Lions to 34-23 win over the Bombers (page 20)

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local

Sewage flooding answers

▶ Human error isn't to blame for incident at plant ▶ Insurance covered the \$10.4-million cost {page 4}

In the Santa spirit

**Parade brings
Spryfield
together**
{page 5}



Beware the bacteria

**Turns out they're
having quite the party
in our bathrooms
{page 17}**

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Riding AGM overshadowed by leadership hopefuls

► Dewar, Cullen, Nash and Chisholm all speak to the NDP crowd about leadership bids ► Candidates take a cordial tone in front of party faithful



ALEX
BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

It was one of the most well-attended electoral riding association annual general meetings in recent memory.

More than 100 people crammed in to the Company House on Gotttingen Street yesterday for the Halifax NDP association's AGM. But most didn't show up to hear about the association's financial situation or to vote on one of two resolutions.

They showed up to hear NDP leadership candidates Paul Dewar, Nathan Cullen, Peggy Nash and Robert Chisholm explain why they should be the next leader of their federal party.

In the interest of time, no questions from the floor were allowed.

Each candidate was offered between 10 and 15 minutes to address the crowd of party faithful.

Perhaps because of the format — or the cordial tone taken by the candidates to one another — it was difficult to determine how, exactly, the four differed.

Dewar, the Ottawa MP and until recently the party's foreign affairs critic, leaned heavily on that portfolio.



► Federal NDP leadership hopeful Paul Dewar speaks to a packed room at the Company House yesterday.

"When I go to the Congo and find out (Canada's) been asked three times to provide peacekeeping, and we said three times no ... Let's get back into that, please," said Dewar.

Nash also focused on her recent critic role, talking about the country's financial situation.

"We're seeing growing joblessness in Canada, growing inequality, high personal debt. There are

major challenges that we're facing," said Nash.

Chisholm, the former provincial NDP leader and recently-elected Dartmouth MP, instead talked about his experience leading the provincial wing and the challenges now facing newly-orange ridings — mostly in Quebec — who lack infrastructure.

"The next leader has to be able to start on March

9 The number of candidates vying for the vacant federal NDP leadership post. All were invited to speak yesterday at the AGM.

25, to travel this country coast to coast to coast, and have those conversations with people in their living rooms, their workplaces, and their community halls," Chisholm said.

Occupy still weighing new location

The Occupy Nova Scotia movement is still considering whether or not they'll pitch tents somewhere else in HRM.

Mike Mlynarczyk, who is involved with the movement but doesn't speak for the planning working group, said the protesters are considering a new localized occupation — perhaps on the Halifax Common — as well as different forms of "direct action."

"There hasn't been a decision made on where we could go," Mlynarczyk said at the NDP's Halifax Riding Association's annual general meeting yesterday.

"Some people are thinking of maybe renting a space and putting together a place where people can ... come down, use the facility, give out food."

Mlynarczyk said the group is also considering giving out food at Grand Parade in the afternoons — but not camping there.

The group as a whole still meets about four times a week for its "general assemblies," where broad decisions are made by consensus.

Mlynarczyk said the weather has become somewhat of an issue also. ● ALEX BOUTILIER

Energetic

Mike Mlynarczyk said the occupiers remain motivated and energetic.

1
news



The UN's climate-change conference begins today in Durban, South Africa, and the stakes couldn't be higher. Scan the code for the story.

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No human error in sewage-plant flood

► Harbour Solutions project began construction in 2003 and officially completed last summer



JENNIFER TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

A forensic audit on the overflow at the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility in 2009 shows it was mechanical failure, and not human error, that caused \$10.9 million in damages.

The report, written back in 2009 by CH2M Hill, was released publicly Friday by the Halifax Regional Water Commission. It was previously kept confidential because of pending legal matters.

This summer, Carl Yates, general manager of Halifax Water, told Halifax regional council the bulk of the cost, \$10.4 million, was recovered through insurance.

A power failure hit the plant on Lower Water Street in downtown Halifax in the early-morning hours of Jan. 14, 2009.

"At approximately 4 a.m., a catastrophic failure of the HWTF occurred. Extensive flooding of the plant took place, causing serious damage to mechanical, electrical and control systems," the report concludes.



► Mayor Peter Kelly checks out flood damage during a tour of the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility in 2009.

Operators were automatically alerted to the problem, and when they arrived at the plant shortly after, they did all they could.

"The Inlet Gate Closing Sequence, which in an emergency situation is supposed to close the gate and

shut off sewage flow to the pumping station, did not fully close the gate," the consultants wrote.

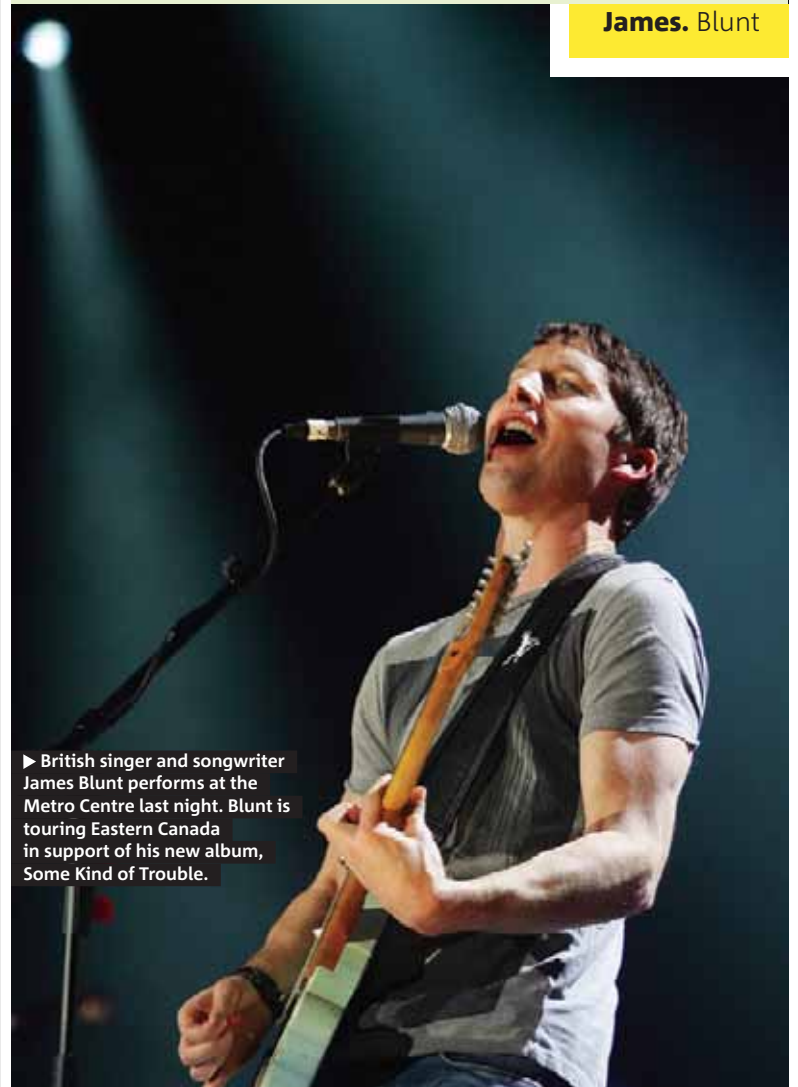
As a result, about two metres of sewer water flooded the basement and flowed out into the Halifax Harbour.

The plant was down for 17 months causing a significant delay in the HRM's Harbour Solutions project. Even though the water commission had to chip in for a minor portion of the cost for the damages to the Halifax plant, the \$329.8-million Harbour Solutions project managed to come in \$3 million under budget.

Sources

► The consultants' report into the 2009 failure at the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility is based on reviews of documentation, imaging of the mechanical system, site visits in April and May of 2009, and interviews.

James. Blunt



► British singer and songwriter James Blunt performs at the Metro Centre last night. Blunt is touring Eastern Canada in support of his new album, *Some Kind of Trouble*.

Blunt brings Trouble to the East Coast

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Santa and helpers twirl into Spryfield

► 37th annual Spryfield Santa Claus Parade brings community together after some rough knocks



JENNIFER
TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

It felt more like spring than Christmas, but the mild weather made for an enjoyable Santa Claus Parade in Spryfield yesterday.

"It's beautiful. It couldn't be better," Ian Robertson said as he walked his costumed greyhound, Minnie, in the parade. He said there seemed to be a lot more people out this year than last.

The parade meandered down Herring Cove Road and ended on Drysdale Road, the same road where a 70-year-old man was shot and killed in a random attack on Nov. 19. Some

"It's great to see the community come together for such a joyous event and I love it."

ANGEL GANNON,
SPRYFIELD RESIDENT

longtime Spryfield residents said the parade was a balm to a community so often slapped with a bad reputation for crime.

"It's not always justified," Nancy Schnare said. "I've lived out here all my life and I've never had a problem."

Schnare, who has been at every one of the Spryfield parades, watched it

yesterday with five of her grandchildren ranging in age from 18 months to 15 years old. A couple more grandchildren were taking part in the parade.

"I think the parade shows Spryfield in a more positive light. We have a lot of good things out here," she said.

When asked her favourite part of the parade, Schnare's five-year-old granddaughter Paige Schnare didn't say Santa, surprisingly. "Candy!" she yelled.

Angel Gannon waved and yelled "Merry Christmas" to her friends and fellow Spryfield residents walking in the parade. Gannon, an 11-year Spry-



► Reindeer majorettes herald the arrival of the jolly old elf at the 37th annual Spryfield Santa Claus Parade yesterday.

field resident, said she loves the parade because it gets her in the mood for Christmas and shows the community spirit.

"There are always a few bad apples everywhere so, hopefully, with the community coming out it shows great support."

50 The estimated number of entries in the parade.

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► Percy Paris speaks during question period at Province House earlier this month.

Don't expect cash back

► Official says he'd be surprised if money is recovered from defunct agency

Taxpayers likely won't get back the money they are owed from a defunct regional development authority, the province's economic development minister has said.

Percy Paris said he'd be surprised if the province recovered any of the \$475,000 it claimed as a listed secured creditor following last year's demise of the South West Shore

Regional Development Authority.

Paris said if any amount of the money is recouped, the government would put it back into the region.

He also didn't hold out much hope for dozens of unsecured creditors who are owed more than \$2.3 million.

"As of this point in time, I don't think anyone is going to get much of anything, if anything at all," said Paris.

An auction Thursday of a former navy base the authority acquired and later sold to Seacoast Entertainment Arts brought in \$125,000.

Forensic audit

► **Province.** A forensic audit is being conducted by the province to determine what happened to money administered by the development authority that lost more than \$200,000 in loans and left some municipalities on the hook for a \$590,000 line of credit.

Seacoast now owes more than \$4 million to creditors, including the former development authority and the provincial government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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N.S. dishes out \$22.5M for building upgrades

The province will spend \$22.5 million over four years to upgrade the Supreme Court building on Lower Water Street.

Halifax Citadel-Sable Island MLA Leonard Preyra announced the project on behalf of Justice Minister Ross Landry on Friday.

Over the course of the renovation, the building's heating, ventilation, air conditioning and electrical services will be upgraded.

The project begins this year with a \$4.3 million investment.

"This investment modernizes the building so that it can serve justice and the people of Halifax

for decades to come. This investment will also create good jobs during the renovations," Preyra said in a release.

The money comes from the province's fall capital budget, the details of which have been released in a piecemeal fashion by MLAs in their ridings.

Finance Minister Graham Steele said the area MLAs are making the announcements so people can better understand what the government is doing in their ridings.

Opposition critics, however, call the slow rollout simple politicking.

● METRO

News in brief

Board asked to assess impact of possible strike

NEGOTIATIONS. The Canada Industrial Relations Board has been asked to examine the impact of a potential strike by maintenance workers at Marine Atlantic.

Federal Labour Minis-

ter Lisa Raitt says the government has been closely following negotiations between the Crown corporation and the union representing workers at the ferry service.

The federal government says about 70 shore-based maintenance workers in North Sydney and Port aux Basques, N.L., have been without a contract since Dec. 31, 2010.

The board can issue binding orders to prevent any threats to public health and safety.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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► Federal Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq, left, shares a laugh with Nova Scotia Health Minister Maureen MacDonald at a meeting of federal, provincial and territorial ministers in Halifax on Friday.

Foundation laid for health accord talks

▶ Ottawa giving \$27 billion to provinces this fiscal year

Provincial and territorial health ministers said they laid the groundwork for further talks on a new health accord, but offered no details on what that might look like when the current deal expires in 2014.

Federal Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq wrapped up a two-day meeting with her provincial counterparts in Halifax on Friday, saying they focused on what they achieved since the last health agreement was created in 2004.

Other issues

- ▶ The ministers also addressed sodium reduction, obesity and suicide prevention.
- ▶ But they didn't come up with a clear consensus on the best way to reduce sodium consumption, with the provinces and Ottawa disagreeing on how to cut Canadians' sodium intake by 2016.

Aglukkaq didn't offer any specifics on what the

provinces will be asking for when the funding deal expires, saying that will be left to premiers when they meet early next year.

Nova Scotia Health Minister Maureen MacDonald said there is a lot of common ground among the provinces, particularly when it comes to providing services to people with limited financial resources.

"We all face financial pressures in making our health-care system sustainable," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRACADIE

Charges laid in fatal crash

Police have laid charges after a two-vehicle crash killed two teenage boys in northern Nova Scotia last week.

RCMP have charged 30-year-old William Fogarty of Antigonish with two counts of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death.

The accident happened on Highway 4 in Tracadie on Thursday afternoon.

Sixteen-year-old Kory Mattie of Havre Boucher was pronounced dead at the scene, while the vehicle's passenger, 17-year-old Nicholas Landry of Tracadie, was rushed to the hospital.

He later died of his injuries.

Investigators are still trying to determine the cause of the crash.

Fogarty will appear in Antigonish provincial court today.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

\$1.1 M to start prison site work

The province is investing \$1.1 million to begin site preparation work for the Northeast Nova Scotia Correctional Facility.

Antigonish-based Nova Construction Company has been selected to complete this project phase.

The Northeast Nova Scotia Correctional Facility is expected to cost about \$34 million to complete. **AMHERST DAILY NEWS**

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Study casts doubt on tougher sentences

► More than half of convicted impaired drivers tend to reoffend despite severity of sentence, report finds

An internal report by the federal Justice Department raises doubts about the effectiveness of harsher sentences, the linchpin of the Tory government's tough-on-crime policies.

The study examined almost 3,300 people convicted of an impaired-driving offence, and found 57 per cent of them offended again at least once, within five years on average.

And the severity of the first sentence had no impact on the behaviour of repeat offenders.

"There was no evidence to suggest that the imposition of a fine or imprisonment had any effect on the likelihood of whether an offender would re-offend or not," the author concludes.

"This indicates that the severity of the sentence received did not deter offenders in this sample."

"Reconviction rates for all individuals were similar regardless of the sentence received for the initial impaired driving conviction."

The research was delivered in July this year, more than three years after the Conservative government passed a tough law that imposed harsher fines and jail sentences, including mandatory minimums, for impaired-driving convictions.

A spokeswoman for the department provided no details about why the research was ordered. But the review follows the passage in 2008 of an omnibus bill,

Recidivism report

► The Canadian Press obtained a copy of the study, Recidivism Among Impaired Drivers by Andre Solecki, under the Access to Information Act. The research covers the period from 1977 to 2006.

► The study is among dozens of internal reports on the justice system prepared each year by department researchers but never published or made public.

the Tackling Violent Crime Act, which revamped penalties for drunk driving, among other tough-on-crime measures.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► RCMP constable Faz Majid removes an open bottle of beer from a motorist's car during a roadside check in Surrey, B.C.

Prince William joins rescue of cargo ship

Prince William joined a frantic search and rescue mission yesterday after a cargo ship sank in the Irish Sea, leaving several members of the Russian crew missing.

The second in line to the British throne, who is a Royal Air Force helicopter and known professionally

as Flight Lt. William Wales, was aboard an aircraft which rescued two crew members early yesterday, after their vessel's hull cracked in gale force winds off the coast of north Wales.

Britain's defence ministry said William had been co-pilot of the helicopter, which carried two people



► Prince William

back to his base RAF Valley, on the Welsh island of Anglesey.

Authorities said five people remain missing after the Cook Islands-registered Swanland cargo ship, which had eight people on board and was carrying thousands of tonnes of limestone, sent a mayday

call. Holyhead Coastguard said one body had been recovered from the sea, but that the fate of the other crew members was not yet known.

Rescue helicopters from RAF Valley and from Dublin coastguard base in Ireland were initially sent to the scene, about 32 kilometres

Stormy seas

► Gale force winds battered the Irish Sea yesterday. It is believed the weather could have caused the incident.

northwest of the Llyn peninsula in north Wales. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Libraries flourish in the ebook era

► Report shows usage up 45 per cent over past decade

Despite the rise of smart phones and ebook readers, many Canadian libraries are busier than ever. And the renaissance may be due in part to the very technology that was expected to threaten their existence.

Across the country, library usage is up 45 per cent over the past decade, from 16.6 to 24.1 transactions on average per capita, according to a recent report prepared by Lumos Research for the Canadian Urban Libraries Council.

Much of that growth has been driven by digital information.

The use of electronic databases more than doubled, and Internet visits to library websites and catalogues grew five-fold in that



► A man reads newspapers inside the Library of Parliament in Ottawa in 2010.

period, according to the report.

At many libraries, there are now ebooks and electronic audiobooks available for download to compatible e-readers, computers, MP3 players and smartphones, as well as music and movies.

The key to a library's success, said Guy Berthiaume, director of Montreal's

Grande Bibliothèque, is to adapt with the times.

The library now has 200,000 ebook titles available with plans for more on the way.

The big bonus? They're automatically returned so there's no late fees. And the digital version of tomes like, say, War and Peace are a whole lot lighter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Egypt 'at a crossroads': Tantawi

► Military ruler issues warning on eve of first vote since Mubarak's ouster

On the eve of landmark elections, Egypt's military ruler warned yesterday of "extremely grave" consequences if the turbulent nation does not pull through its current crisis — an attempt to rally the

public behind his council of generals in the face of pressure from protesters to step down immediately.

Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi urged voters to turn out for the start of parliamentary elections to-

day despite the chaos in the streets after nine days of protests and clashes.

"We will not allow troublemakers to meddle in the elections," he said in comments carried by the nation's official news

agency. "Egypt is at a crossroads — either we succeed politically, economically and socially or the consequences will be extremely grave and we will not allow that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Parliamentary candidate Baheya Mohammed wears a niqab, an Islamic face veil, as she talks to voters in Cairo yesterday.



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COURT ORDERS RELEASE

Students detained in Cairo back in the U.S.

An American student arrested during protests in Cairo says he feared for his life after he was taken into custody by four or five people in plainclothes.

Nineteen-year-old Derrik Sweeney told The Associated Press in an interview yesterday via Skype that the evening of his arrest on Nov. 20 started peacefully in Tahrir Square, where protesters have been gathering for more than a week.

He says he and others later wandered through

the streets to the Interior Ministry but fled when shots were fired.

He says four or five "plainclothes Egyptians" then offered to lead the students to safety. He says they followed but found themselves taken into custody, beaten and threatened with guns.

Sweeney and the other two students flew back to the U.S. on Saturday after a court ordered them released.

Protesters have been calling for Egypt's military leaders to hand power back to a civilian government before the landmark parliamentary elections scheduled to start today. At least 43 protesters have been killed since Nov. 19 and 2,000 wounded, most of them in Cairo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manitoba girl, 4, stable after being shot

Police in Manitoba say a four-year-old girl has been shot, apparently after her five-year-old brother got ahold of a firearm.

Police say the shooting occurred on Saturday in a home in the Rural Municipality of Whitewater, south of Brandon. They say the girl was transported to hospital in Winnipeg, where she is reported to be in stable condition.

Police investigators were at the scene of the shooting, but no further information was released at the time.

The shooting comes three weeks after a nine-year-old boy was accidentally shot and killed by his 14-year-old brother on the Sagkeeng First Nation in Manitoba.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

L.A. pepper spray suspect surrenders

A woman suspected of showering Black Friday shoppers with pepper spray surrendered to authorities, but was released pending further investigation after she refused to discuss the incident, police said Saturday.

The woman, whose name was not released, is suspected of firing pepper spray into a crowd in order to clear a path to a crate of Xbox consoles that were being unwrapped late Thanksgiving night at a Walmart in the San Fernando Valley.

The suspect got away in the confusion, and it was not known if she bought one of the Xboxes. Ten people suffered minor injuries from the spray and 10 others sustained cuts and bruises in the ensuing chaos. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Church conflict locks out members

► Issues over reverend's leadership leads to congregation being shut out of St. Giles' sanctuary

JESSICA SMITH
@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN OTTAWA

On the first Sunday of Advent, the small Ottawa congregation of St. Giles Presbyterian Church worshipped in the basement, locked out of the sanctuary by the presbytery.

"It doesn't matter where we worship, as long we worship as a community," Rev. Wayne Menard said after the service yesterday.

A group of church members signed a petition objecting to Menard's leadership and asking for his removal. As a result, the presbytery locked the doors of the sanctuary until the congregation "repents,"

"The whole thing is a mess, and I don't understand why."

MURDO MURCHISON, CHURCHGOER

Menard confirmed.

According to Menard, the problem is more nuanced and complex than reported in local media. He said that out of concern for the congregation, he doesn't want to speak about what led to the basement service.

People from other churches came to the service yesterday to show support for the congregation. The roughly 40 people at the service yesterday was a good turnout, Menard said.

Churchgoers who spoke

after the service said they were concerned the rift would impact the future of the church.

"I think there's a real risk that people will go to other churches," said Claudia Chowanec, as she left the church. "I think we're a family. I think we've all made mistakes."

Murdo Murchison said he was worried that the problems would harm attendance at the church, but added that having to worship in the basement didn't bother him.

"What troubles me is the closing of the church and the indefinite reasons," he said. The issues leading to the lockout have not been explained well enough, he said.

Calgary. Windstorm



► Debris litters the ground in downtown Calgary yesterday.

JEREMY NOLAN/METRO

Blowing through town

Winds nearing 150 km/h tore pieces of glass and other materials off the TD Square building in Calgary yesterday. Debris rained down from as high as 40 storeys.

Teens arrested for dousing girl with gas

Three adolescents in Saguenay, Que., have been arrested after a 12-year-old girl was doused with gasoline.

Police say that it appears one of them poured gasoline on her while the others held matches and a flaming sheet of paper.

Investigators say the youths had filled beer bottles with gasoline and were waiting for the girl and her friend at one of their homes on Friday evening.

The girl managed to escape and a parent later alerted police.

The three accused were briefly arrested and then released on a promise to appear in youth court in January.

Police say all those involved knew each other.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Scientists barcode DNA

- May one day be able to answer, 'How many species are on the planet?'
- As library grows, so do the ways barcoding can be used, says an official

Put to use ...

- The technique has been adopted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a regulatory tool and was used to identify mislabelled cheap fish being sold at American restaurants as more expensive species.
- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is using barcodes to collaborate with its U.S. counterparts to identify seafood, pest insects and pathogenic fungi.
- Environment Canada is also using it to measure species diversity in watersheds and identify materials they've confiscated.

Scientists have discovered a range of new uses for a Canadian technology that can be used to peer into 30,000-year-old permafrost, detect phoney herbal medicines and catch invasive species before they sneak across borders.

Researchers from around the world are "fingerprinting" most of the planet's species by taking samples of their DNA and cataloguing them in a reference library. The DNA creates a so-called barcode that identifies real ingredients in food, quickly analyzes water quality and reveals how the environment has changed over millennia.

Bob Hanner, a professor at the University of Guelph where the technique was

developed in 2003, said barcoding gives governments, businesses and people a reliable way of knowing what they're eating, importing and buying.

"We have a very powerful tool to identify species in processed products that you wouldn't normally be able to identify using traditional morphological techniques," he said.

Researchers are steadily building the library of bar-

codes by taking short gene sequences from samples of birds, fish, mammals, insects and other life forms at herbaria, museums and other facilities.





In 2005, there were 33,000 records covering 12,700 species in the Barcode of Life Data Systems. Now there are almost 1.4 million records banked, representing roughly 167,000 species.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► An orange clownfish in anemone is shown in this photo. Scientists have discovered a range of new uses for a Canadian technology that can be used to peer into 30,000-year-old permafrost, detect phoney herbal medicines and catch invasive species before they sneak across borders.

Market moment

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
			
- 23.26 (11,462.06)	- 0.23¢ (95.29¢ US)	+ 60¢ US (\$96.77 US)	\$3.542 (+ 8.2¢) Gold contracts \$1,685.70 (- \$10.20)

AP/WIDE WORLD

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Top 5: November 25th

- 5 Britney Spears - Criminal
- 4 Adele - Someone Like You
- 3 Alexandra Stan - Mr. Saxobeat
- 2 LMFAO - Sexy And I Know It
- 1 Katy Perry - The One That Got Away

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I don't know for certain, but it wouldn't surprise me to discover, when we finally touch bottom in the Great Bridgetown Financial Fiasco — when we get past the

recent auditor's report fingering a single trusted employee for looting \$113,000 from the town's treasury, past the ongoing police investigation and likely charges and even more likely conviction (the auditor's report says she admitted taking the money), and on to her pre-sentence report — gambling was at the heart of the crime.

I have no proof. But I read the papers.

Consider these Nova Scotia gambling-related crime stories, all published since Oct. 1.

A former financial secretary to the Lunenburg local of the Canadian Auto Workers' Union is ordered to stand trial on charges he failed to pay back \$29,000 he stole from the organization. His lawyer claims the man is addicted to video lottery terminal gambling.

The former president of a Royal Canadian Legion branch in Waverley is sentenced to house arrest after

stealing \$21,385 he gambled away over three years. "Gambling took hold of me," he told the judge at his sentencing.

A Glace Bay man pleads guilty to robbing a local bank branch of \$2,389 to "support his gambling addiction."

And a Musquodoboit Harbour doctor is ordered to abstain from gambling, alcohol and non-prescription medications after the province's College of Physicians and Surgeons determines she prescribed narcotics to a patient — and took them herself.

Most crimes associated with gambling addictions

tend to slide under our radar.

But not all.

Last spring, Jason MacRae finally admitted he killed his wife, school teacher Paula Gallant, during an argument over a \$700 online gambling debt.

And two of those charged in the MLA expenses scandal — former MLA Dave Wilson and current MLA Trevor Zinck — have been publicly identified as having "issues" with gambling.

In fact, a 2006 research report says 45 per cent of all inmates at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Institution self-reported gambling problems; 20 per cent claimed to have committed gambling-related crimes.

We have a societal problem we're not admitting. Perhaps it's because we too are hooked on the government revenues gambling provides.



Register at
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and take the quick poll

Will you miss Italy's resigned leader
Silvio Berlusconi?

78%

NO, HIS
BUNGA
BUNGA
STYLE
DOESN'T
INTEREST
ME



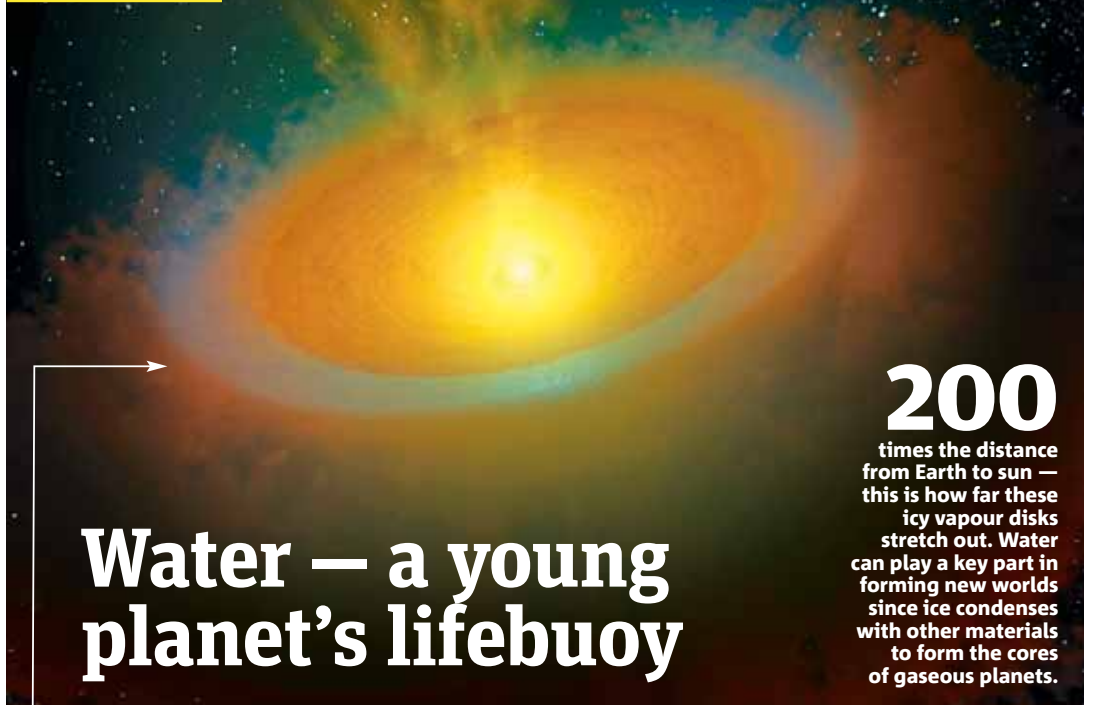
22%
YES, HE
MADE
POLITICS
SEXY

Local tweets



- @Paul-James902: No team east of Montreal is gonna last in the #CFL. Not #Moncton not #Halifax. Go ahead and try, you will #fail and waste tax payer money
- @survivorn: I hate shopping. I hate shopping I hate shopping I hate shopping. #halifax
- @MsCivvy: I've got #99 followers, but why aren't you one? Join the #movement to increase my followers. Hehe. #Halifax
- @kalryssa: Ain't no grave gonna keep my body down. — church sign in halifax. LMAO
- @KylMacka: @Z103Hfx, I don't know if the rebranding is permanent, but "The beat of Halifax" was so much cooler than your current saying.. #imissnoluv
- @Jdanielledoiron: Sometimes I really forget I'm right beside the ocean, walks on the waterfront need to happen way more often. #ocean #halifax
- @Element905: @MSmith-Bubbles BUBS! Are you in NS right now? You should head to Halifax and hit up @poutinerie That cures hangovers!

Daily Zoom



Water — a young planet's lifebuoy

200

times the distance from Earth to sun — this is how far these icy vapour disks stretch out. Water can play a key part in forming new worlds since ice condenses with other materials to form the cores of gaseous planets.

TIM PYLE/SPITZER SCIENCE CENTER/CALTECH

Halo of water, celestial sight

CONSTELLATION H2O. This ring of water vapour, enough to fill several thousand Earth oceans, has given U.S. experts a clue to the origins of our planet's seas. The water around the star TW Hydrae could form into icy comets and eventually collide with young planets, bringing with it the ingredients for life. ● **MWN**

"This research tells us that the key materials that life needs are present in a system before planets are born. We can directly detect this."

PROF. TED BERGIN, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, LEAD AUTHOR OF STUDY

Is our neighbour copying us?

EVOLUTION. The TW Hydrae star, in the constellation of Hyda, is 10 million years old and our closest solar-system-to-be neighbour, being "only" 175 light years from Earth. Many young star systems could have similar disks and, therefore, the potential to develop watery planets and thus be able to host alien life. ● **MWN**

How it might work

- **Collision and formation.** Over several million years, disks could collide and form planets and cosmic bodies.
- **Balls of ice.** Dust and ice particles could merge to create icy comets.
- **Creation of new oceans.** Comets could crash onto planets to form vast seas.

2
scene

Box office



The latest Twilight movie has plenty of daylight left with a second-straight win at the weekend box office. The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1 took in \$42 million domestically over the three-day weekend and \$62.3 million in the five-day U.S. Thanksgiving boom time, Wednesday to yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



India hooked to Tamil song that's become an Internet sensation

Metal's distorted roots

► Documentary connects Elvis to Metallica ... to Nickelback? ► Premiered Friday on MuchMore

NOUSHA SALIMI/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The target audience for the 11-part documentary series Metal Evolution is a pretty specific head-banging demographic that's already familiar with the history of the heavy genre from AC/DC to Metallica and Zak Wylde.

And yet the Canadian-made show has landed screen time on MuchMore, which has the likes of Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Beyoncé and Britney Spears topping its current chart of videos.

Show co-creators Sam Dunn and Scot McFadyen say it was a lot easier to sell this series (which first began airing in the U.S. on VH1 Classic) than it was to get buyers' attention with their first big project, the documentary Metal: A Headbanger's Journey.

Dunn and McFadyen say they've proven there's a sizable audience for serious programming about heavy metal and how it's affected and been affected by other music genres.

"When we told people we wanted to make a serious film about heavy metal (seven years ago) we got

"Nickelback is a band people like to bash but they are great performers and they do kind of come out of that grunge influence and build on it"

SCOT MCFADYEN, CO-CREATOR OF METAL EVOLUTION



► Metallica's singer James Hetfield performs on Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates last month.

laughed out of a lot of boardrooms, people didn't really think it was something that could be done and actually could engage an audience," Dunn says.

"VH1 Classic has been really supportive of our work in the U.S. and I think they recognized that provided you can kind of tie in a lot of the classic bands, like Kiss and Aerosmith and Van Halen, and touch on some of the more recent bands, they recognize there's an audience out there."

The idea for the show, co-produced by MuchMore and VH1 Classic, was based on the reaction to a family tree of heavy metal that the filmmaking duo presented

in their first documentary, charting how the music of Elvis Presley, the Beatles and Jimi Hendrix connected to the various metal sub-genres of today.

"There were a lot of people we were really excited to interview, some unlikely characters for a series about heavy metal," Dunn says, giving Dick Dale, the '60s-era King of the Surf Guitar, as a prime example.

Another somewhat unlikely connection to heavy metal — which the filmmakers are expecting may cause a bit of a kerfuffle with fans of the genre — is the much-maligned best-selling rockers Nickelback.

The band is profiled dur-

ing an episode about the aftermath of the grunge movement in the '90s and how the likes of Nirvana, Alice in Chains, Pearl Jam and Soundgarden influenced hard rock.

"Grunge is a good example of those musical styles where half the people you ask will say it's totally metal and the other half will say it's got nothing to do with metal," says Dunn.

"That's really the question we ask in that episode, is grunge part of the story of metal?" If it is, it's hard to dispute Nickelback isn't part of the conversation, given that the band began dominating the radiowaves in the years after grunge's

demise.

"This show is about the evolution of sound and who did those grunge bands influence? Really, the next generation are bands like Nickelback, Creed and Silverchair, all these bands that came up in the late '90s that had hallmarks of the grunge sound but were creating something a little more mainstream, a little more radio-friendly," says Dunn.

It was impossible to ignore Nickelback's impact on hard rock music, McFadyen says, even if metal fans think the band is the antithesis of what they're into.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Miley Cyrus: Party in the USA, indeed

- Singer's friends get her a Bob Marley-shaped cake for her 19th birthday
- A number of dwarfs, including a mini-Nicki Minaj, attend the party

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONOVS.CA



It looks like Miley Cyrus has yet another alter-ego: Let's call this one Hannah Bongtana, shall we?

When she was presented with a Bob Marley-shaped cake at her 19th birthday party at the Roosevelt Hotel in L.A. last week, Cyrus quipped, "You know you're a stoner when friends make you a Bob Marley cake — you know you smoke way too much f—in' weed." (The Daily has the video evidence.)

"I thought salvia was your problem, man?" retorted guest Kelly Osbourne.

The Daily also reports that guests on hand for the



► Miley Cyrus

party included her parents, Rumer Willis, and "and a number of dwarfs, including a mini-Nicki Minaj."

I'd make a joke but 1. Os-

bourne already did it for me. 2. A mini-Nicki Minaj? I have much too much respect for how Cyrus throws a party to poke fun.

Want to date Lady Gaga?

When it comes to finding a man, Lady Gaga is looking for an Ivy League education — among other things.

"Talent and perseverance and pushing the boundaries of



love and acceptance," Gaga says of the attributes she appreciates in a prospective

boyfriend, according to Hollyscoop. "I don't know. I can't really say. It ranges from a really big [penis] to a degree at Harvard. Just about anything."

METRO

J.Lo and her beau hang in Hawaii

Jennifer Lopez celebrated American Thanksgiving by escaping to Hawaii with Casper Smart, the 24-year-old dancer she's reportedly been dating, according to TMZ. Smart met several of Lopez's family members on the trip — and spent quality time with her three-year-old twins, Max and Emme. "Casper was great with the kids. He was twirling them around and doing flips with Emme and she seemed very comfortable with him," a source says.

METRO

It's a girl for Lily Allen and Sam Cooper

Lily Allen and Sam Cooper welcomed their first child, a daughter, over the weekend, according to the Daily Mail.

While not quite an official birth announcement, Allen did reference the arrival on Twitter, posting simply, "Totes amaze."

It's a particularly special occasion for Allen and Cooper, as Allen has suffered miscarriages twice in the past three years.

There was no announcement yet about



► Lily Allen and Sam Cooper

the baby girl's name.

● METRO

Celebrity tweets



Is it my imagination, or is everyone talking much faster than they used to on CNN?



@BetteMidler



@goldiehawn

ference

Don't forget to smile when you breathe. Makes all the difference

@russellcrowe

3 hour walk and talk with a great friend. Most of the world's problems solved. I hope you all have a spectacular day.



@AlbertBrooks

Working on "It's a Wonderful Tweet" A man is shown how the world would be different if he were never on Twitter.

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3 life

Slow toys



This season UK toy wholesaler Asobi launched a 'Slow Toy' list of fun, interactive, battery-free toys in response to the UK Toy Retailers' Association's top 12 toys of 2011, which included the daft Doggie Doo: a plastic dog that poos.



New rules will make built-in child car seats conform to changed size limits. Scan code for story.

Are toys good for kids?

► The toy industry uses aggressive marketing to sell 'educational' toys to parents and children ► Will your kids learn anything from these gadgets? Or will a simple box do?



EMMA E. FOREST

SCENE@METRONWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

This time of year, parents spend billions on toys and toy companies spend millions advertising their latest toys and gadgets to kids. With toy manufacturers selling so-called "educational" toys — this year top sellers include junior tablets — what's really best for kids?

"The marketplace has been doing a marvellous job of telling parents that unless you buy the right toys for your children — that is to say, the toys they manufacture — they will be stunted intellectually. It leads parents to buy toys that really aren't ideal," says Dr. Roberta Golinkoff, psychology professor at the University of Delaware and author of *A Mandate for Playful Learning in Preschool and Einstein Never Used Flash Cards*.

"People in my job have done a lousy job of educating the public about what matters in child development. A lot of parents are buying, for example, expensive electronic toys that have really questionable benefits."

Research shows that kids learn from play, not

toys. Parents should be wary of toys marketed as educational — in fact shockingly few toys of any type are developed in consultation with child psychologists.

"Everything is educational, but what are kids actually learning?" says Dr. Susan Linn, psychiatrist at Harvard Medical School and director of the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood.

"Children learn the most from hands-on creative play and from interacting with adults who care about them, so parents should approach toys that claim to be educational with healthy cynicism," says the academic who led CCFC's victorious campaign against Baby Einstein's unsubstantiated claims that babies learn from its DVDs.

"They should ask themselves: Is this toy encouraging my child to be creative? Does it require my child to actively do things? Can it be used in more than one way? Toys that talk, sing or dance at the push of a button are pretty useless for kids."

"The kind of toys kids need are 90 per cent kid and 10 per cent toy, not where the toy determines



► Kids learn most from — and love — toys that let them play properly.

"Toys kids need are 90 per cent kid and 10 per cent toy, not where the toy determines what you do."

DR. ROBERTA GOLINKOFF

what you do," says Golinkoff. "That's why children are more fascinated by the box the toy

comes in than the toy, because the box has a million possibilities and the toy has one."

Children learn most from toys that offer multiple possibilities and allow kids to express their creativity including art and craft projects, puzzles and games, dress-up outfits, role-play toys and building blocks.

This holiday, place a large appliance box in the middle of your living room, suggests Golinkoff.

"Parents will be shocked by how much their children age seven or under will love that box because it frees up their imagination — it can be a boat, spaceship or house, and they can colour it, cut bits out, paste things on it. Kids love this."

"Parents feel like if they don't buy expensive toys with batteries that they're failing their children but it's the exact opposite. You want the kid to be in charge and not the toy."

**ONLY 3
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Funeral Home
339 Lacewood Dr
455-0531



Eww, they're everywhere

◆ If you're a germaphobe, a new study reveals some information about bathrooms that may scare you

If you skip the sink after going to the bathroom, you really might want to think again.

A new study found bacteria are plentiful on virtually every bathroom surface you might imagine touching — toilet handles, stall doors, soap and towel dispensers.

Gut bacteria — the type of bugs that live in the human gastrointestinal tracts — were even found on the handles of bathroom exits, a dead giveaway that not everyone is following Mom's advice.

"That's not the ideal spot for them," lead author Gilberto Flores said in an interview Wednesday. "You'd hope that most people would wash their hands with soap and water and that you would eliminate most of those."

"You do see kind of a trail based on your activities in the restroom."

The study, done at the University of Colorado in Boulder, saw researchers test surfaces in 12 bathrooms on the university campus to look for microbes. An equal distribution of men's and women's bathrooms were tested.

The findings were published Thursday in the journal PLoS One, a publication of the U.S. Public Library of Science.

The researchers found a wide variety of bacteria, even though the facilities

"If you are using the toilet after someone else, not cleaning your hands, and that other person happened to have Salmonella, you could potentially catch it. So it is appropriate to be paranoid in that setting and actually clean your hands appropriately."

DR. MICHAEL GARDAM, DIRECTOR OF INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL AT TORONTO'S UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK

were well maintained, Flores said.

The microbes broke down roughly into three groups: bacteria that live on human skin, bacteria from the outdoors that people likely brought in on their shoes and bacteria that live inside humans and are passed in urine or feces.

The latter type is the one which would pose the most concern, though the work didn't find illness-causing bacteria such as Shigella.

Where the different types of bacteria were found correlated with the type of body part the sur-



► Your toothbrush is likely giving housework to some pretty nasty inhabitants including microscopic bacteria, viruses and fungi.

face came in contact with. Skin bacteria were the main findings on touch surfaces and floors were positive for soil bacteria.

Interestingly, some toilet handles also were positive for soil bacteria, suggesting some people were using their feet to flush the toilet, the authors said.

Toilet seats and most of the toilet handles were populated with gut microbes, "suggesting fecal contamination of these surfaces," the paper said, adding the contamination could have been the result of direct contact or water splashes when a toilet was flushed.

In many respects, what was seen was what one

would expect to see from this kind of study — a fact which could explain the

bemused reactions of a couple of infection control experts asked to comment

on the study. Where there are people, there are bacteria, they both said.

"We know that we do not live in a sterile world," said Dr. Andrew Simor, head of microbiology at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto.

"There are bacteria all around us. And in particular, we're going to find human bacteria in places where humans are."

In fact, bacteria don't just surround us, they live in us. The human gastrointestinal tract is home to a vast array of bacteria.

"We're surrounded by bugs and we're covered in bugs, both inside and out," Flores agreed. "Most of them are beneficial to our health, actually."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Have some fun with tuna

► Eating from a can is boring ► Making tacos is a simple, tasty solution



► This recipe serves two.

Try these easy tuna tacos for dinner or lunch. Having the flavour right in the tuna helps bring this meal together fast. Serve it up with a crunchy green salad to round out the meal.

Preparation:

- 1 Toast taco shells for 20 to 30 seconds in toaster

oven or in a 180 C (350 F) oven for 1 minute.

- 2 In a small skillet, heat tuna over medium heat. Reduce heat to low and stir in half of the sour cream.

- 3 Divide some of the tuna mixture among each taco shell and top with

lettuce, tomato and remaining sour cream. Garnish with lime wedges.

CLOVER LEAF/ THIS RECIPE WAS ADAPTED FOR METRO BY EMILY RICHARDS, A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients:

- 4 taco shells
- 3 cans (85 g each) flaked light tuna (spicy thai chili)
- 60 mL (1/4 cup) sour cream
- 250 mL (1 cup) shredded iceberg lettuce
- 1 tomato, diced
- 2 lime wedges

Rose Reisman's Swap It

When things get busy for you, it can be quick and convenient to toss a Lunch Mate into your child's school bag. But beware, some Lunch Mates are healthier than others.



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PAINTING A CLEAR PATH FOR YOUR RECYCLING

What's the best way to clean used paint brushes? And how do I get rid of old paint? *Sandy of Halifax, NS*

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LINDSAY COULTER
GREEN@METRONEWS.CA

If you're using low- or no-VOC (volatile organic compound) paint, clean up is easy. Latex paints are water based, so brushes come clean with a little eco-friendly dish soap and water. Oil-based or alkyd

options will require paint thinner. If you're dealing with the latter, check hardware stores for less toxic thinners that contain citrus oil-based solvents.

If you're doing a multi-day job, don't wash your

brushes or rollers at the end of each day. Wrap them in a plastic bag. They'll be fine until the next day. Stopping for longer than a day? Store the sealed plastic bag in the freezer for a week or two.

Never dispose of half-used paint cans in your household garbage where they could end up contaminating soil and waterways. Donate leftovers to a local paint exchange program. Recovery depots across

Canada take deck paint, primers, wood stains, oils and varnishes. Most, but not all, also accept empty paint cans.



David
Suzuki
Foundation

CEO espressos his concern

BOOK REVIEW

CRAIG LUND
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA



Greedy has never served anyone well, and in the case of businesses it breeds overconfidence,

entitlement and a sense of invincibility.

Case in point: Starbucks. In his book *Onward*, Starbucks' CEO Howard Schultz lays out the factors that led the company astray in the years 2000 to 2007.

Howard describes the damage as being "slow and quiet" and says, "Obsessed with growth, we took our eye off operations and became distracted from the core of the business". These errors in operation additionally came at the most imperfect of times as the company headed straight into a recession.

Having stepped down as CEO in 2000 to assume the role of Chairman, Schultz returned as CEO in January 2008. *Onward* is the story of what happened next.

Many people will recall the news in February 2008, when Starbucks made an unprecedented move to close all of their stores for one full day of training. An action that was unprecedented for any company.

Each of the 7100 U.S. stores had a note on the door reading "We're taking time to perfect our espresso. Great espresso requires practice. That's why we're dedicating our-



selves to honing our craft."

Espresso after all is what Schultz fell in love with when he started in the business.

"Pouring espresso is an art," he states. "One that requires the barista to care about the quality of the beverage."

Schultz passion for his business is clear, sometimes to a fault as many senior Starbucks partners can attest to when listening to Schultz speak from the heart.

This was especially upsetting as Schultz's criticism of his company having "lost its way" went against the figures.

Stock price, earnings, shareholder confidence and store openings were all positive. But Schultz was right, the company had lost its way, or more pertinently, its soul.

For many of us, myself included, Starbucks is a part of our daily lives.

Onward is Schultz's commitment to staying in our lives and continuing to be that special 'third place' away from home and work.

CRAIG LUND, IS THE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING SERVICES FIRM MARKETING TALENT INC. AND CAN BE REACHED AT CLUND@MARKETING-TALENTINC.COM OR ON TWITTER @CRAIGLUND

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Lions finish climb with a Cup

► B.C. holds off spirited late Winnipeg comeback to win championship at home in Vancouver

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

34	23
LIONS	BOMBERS



► Lions quarterback Travis Lulay scrambles during the second quarter of the 99th Grey Cup at B.C. Place Stadium in Vancouver last night.

They opened the season with a whimper, but Travis Lulay and the B.C. Lions ended it with a bang.

Game MVP Travis Lulay threw two second-half touchdown passes to lead B.C. to an exciting 34-23 Grey Cup win over the Winnipeg Blue Bombers last night. The victory, before an ear-splitting BC Place sellout of 54,313, capped a stunning turnaround for the Lions, who opened the season 0-5.

"This is the greatest feeling in the world," said Lions receiver Geroy Simon. "All the hard work we put in, all the blood, sweat and tears in the off-season, starting 0-5 ... then winning the Cup at home, it's the best feeling in the world."

B.C. became the first team in CFL history to win the Grey Cup after losing its first five regular-season games. B.C. also became the first squad since the 1994 Lions to capture the league title at home.

The '72 Hamilton Tiger-Cats and '77 Montreal Alouettes are the other teams to

accomplish that feat.

Lions tailback Andrew Harris, a Winnipeg native, was named the top Canadian. Harris scored the game's first touchdown, and was counted on to help eat the clock in the game's dying minutes.

"I'm just so happy that (Lions coach Wally Buono) has that faith in me, giving me the ball in crucial moments to get first downs," Harris said. "It's a great feeling when your coach has confidence in you and trusts you."

Lulay's 66-yard TD strike

to Kierrie Johnson on the final play of the third quarter put B.C. ahead 24-9. It was the first touchdown catch of Johnson's career.

But the game's turning point came with 12:21 left to play. Lulay tried to throw a screen pass inside the B.C. 30-yard line, but Winnipeg end Odell Willis got his hands on the ball and had a clear path to the end zone. But Willis couldn't hang on, and the Lions dodged a huge bullet.

"I just didn't make the play, that's all," Willis said.

B.C. then marched

downfield and capped an 82-yard drive at 8:10 of the fourth, as Lulay found Arland Bruce III on a six-yard TD strike to give B.C. a commanding 31-9 advantage.

Winnipeg made it interesting with two late Buck Pierce TD passes. He hit Greg Carr on a 45-yard touchdown strike at 11:22, then found Terrence Edwards on a 13-yard scoring pass with 1:37 remaining to make it 31-22. That touchdown was set up by Jovon Johnson's 47-yard punt return that was fur-

ther aided by a B.C. face-mask penalty called on B.C. kicker Paul McCallum.

Winnipeg's onside kick-off attempt didn't go the mandatory 10 yards, giving B.C. the ball with 1:36 remaining.

"We had too many two and outs and they had a short field and we had a long field," Pierce said. "Our defence had to stay on the field too long. We just didn't start well enough. They came out on fire and we didn't respond."

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Moncton puts muzzle on Moose

- Mooseheads can't convert on power-play chance late in overtime
- Wildcats tie game in third period on way to shootout triumph



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@METRONEWS.CA

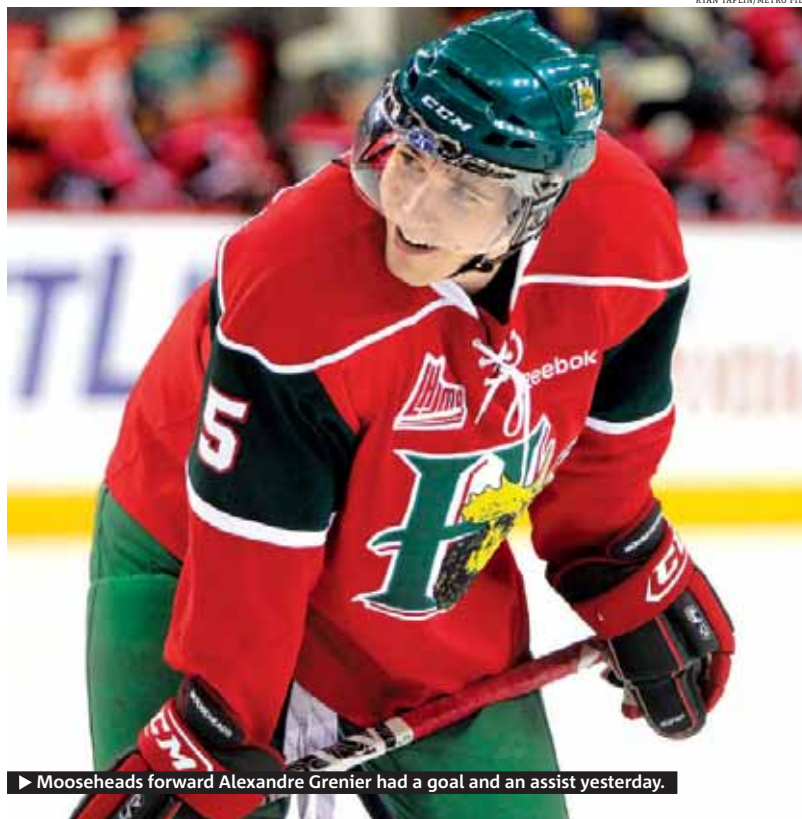
The Moncton Wildcats continue to have the Halifax Mooseheads' number.

The Wildcats edged the Mooseheads 4-3 in a shootout yesterday afternoon at Moncton Coliseum, giving them four wins in five tries in head-to-head matchups this season.

Defenceman James Melindy scored the shootout winner for the Wildcats, who forced the shootout with a one-minute, 53-second penalty kill at the end of overtime.

"They're always tight games (with Moncton)," said Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme. "The last two games were overtime hockey, the first couple were really early in the season and we were missing guys. They're always playing tight hockey games, not giving you much. But I don't think it's anything in particular against them besides them not giving you much."

The Mooseheads, who had won four of five games coming in, allowed two goals in the first period but bounced back in the second. Cameron Critchlow, at even strength, and Alexandre Grenier and Brent Andrews, on the power play, scored in the



► Mooseheads forward Alexandre Grenier had a goal and an assist yesterday.

middle frame to put Halifax up 3-2.

Moncton's Erik Robichaud tied it 4:59 into the third.

"We really played hard and focused on winning the second to get in position to play for a win in the third, and that's what we

did," Ducharme said. "We showed character. We had our chances. Both teams battled hard and I thought we deserved the win as much as they did."

Rookie goaltender Zach Fucale made 27 saves and stopped two of four shootout attempts.

Critchlow was Halifax's lone shootout scorer.

The Mooseheads are sixth overall with a 17-7-3 record but have played the fewest number of games in the QMJHL. They're back in action on Friday at home to the Gatineau Olympiques.

World juniors to announce invitees today

It's a big day for Nathan MacKinnon.

The 16-year-old Halifax Mooseheads rookie from Cole Harbour will find out whether he has earned an invitation to next month's Canadian world junior selection camp. The team will be announced at 12:30 p.m.

He's going in with plenty of momentum. He had two goals and six assists in three games this week, including two assists in yesterday's 4-3 shootout loss to Moncton,

and has 43 points in 27 games overall.

Canadian head scout Kevin Prendergast said earlier this month it's "going to be tough" for MacKinnon to make the team, but didn't rule out issuing him an invitation to the selection camp.

Follow @metroqfiles on Twitter or visit metronews.ca/halifax today to find out whether MacKinnon made the team.

► **MATTHEW WUEST**



► Nathan MacKinnon



► Halifax forward Lawrence Wright goes up for a rebound in London against the Lightning earlier this season.

Over-Powered in Oshawa

According to the score-sheet, the Oshawa Power scored a come-from-behind home victory over the Halifax Rainmen yesterday.

But after watching his team lose 115-111 to an opponent that sits near the bottom of the National Basketball League of Canada standings, Rainmen coach Josep (Pep) Claros didn't see it that way at all.

"Mentally, we were behind all game," Claros said. "It wasn't just about the scoreboard. You can react or you can anticipate. We chose to react. When you're doing everything one step later, one second later, you are not going to (win)."

Oshawa had a 3-5 record coming into the day, including back-to-back losses and four setbacks in its past five games.

The Power trailed 57-52 at the break before pouring it on with a 63-point second half. Oshawa's Akeem Wright, a six-foot-six forward, scorched the Rainmen for 33 points on 12-of-19 shooting.

"We need to be more humble," Claros said. "We cannot just think that we are going to win without working ... I think some players underestimated the opponent."

Injuries didn't help Halifax's cause. Starting point guard Taliek Brown left the game early on with a finger injury and forward Eddie Robinson — making his season debut — injured his groin in the second half. It's not clear how serious those injuries are just yet.

Former Saint Mary's Huskies star Joey Haywood had another big game, scor-

ing 20 points and adding four assists. Robinson and Justin Johnson had 18 points, and Lawrence Wright chipped in with 15.

The Rainmen, 3-3, visit the Saint John Mill Rats on Friday at 7 p.m.

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Philly. Flops

► New England quarterback Tom Brady calls signals out in Philadelphia yesterday.

RICH SCHULTZ/GETTY IMAGES

Pats soar past Eagles

Tom Brady threw for 361 yards and three touchdowns and the New England Patriots beat the Philadelphia Eagles 38-20 yesterday. Filling in for the injured Michael Vick, Vince Young couldn't keep the Eagles' fading playoff hopes alive despite a career-best 400 yards passing. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Winners and losers of NBA's tentative deal

► Season to begin Christmas Day after sides make handshake agreement

NBA owners and players reached a tentative agreement early Saturday morning to end the 149-day lockout and plan to begin the delayed season on Christmas Day.

Here are some highlights:

The deal: Largely completed around 3 a.m. ET Saturday, then announced. More details still must be tackled including dismissing all pending lawsuits, making the National Basketball Players Association an actual union again and vot-

ing by both the players and owners to ratify the agreement.

Key dates: Dec. 9 (free agency opens, camps open), Dec. 25 (games begin).

Owners' biggest win: Reducing the players' guarantee of basketball-related income to no higher than 51 per cent after they received 57 per cent under the previous collective bargaining agreement. With each BRI point worth about \$40 million US based on last season's revenues, that's a

swing of at least \$240 million annually, erasing most of what owners said were \$300 million in losses last season.

Owners' biggest loss: The NFL style hard cap and non-guaranteed contracts they sought. The system is in fact similar to the old one, just with harsher luxury tax penalties to limit spending.

Players' biggest win: The preservation of the mid-level exception — though in a reduced form — and various trade rules for teams over the luxury

tax, keeping the biggest market teams in the running to bid for them, even if they can't pay as much as they used to.

Players' biggest loss: Money. They're transferring more than \$1 billion in salary and benefits to owners in the first six years of the deal.

What's next: Look for talks early this week on a pre-season schedule, the dismissal or settlement of pending lawsuits, then movement toward getting the entire CBA written.

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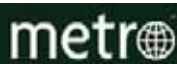
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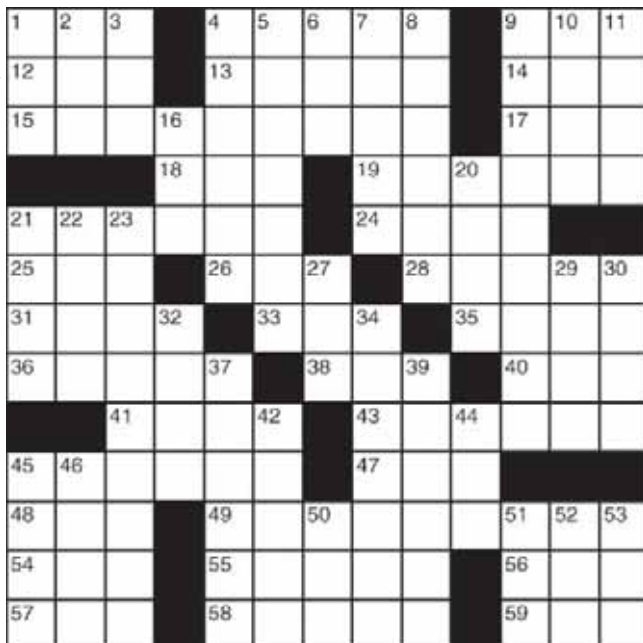
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Crossword

Across

- 1 Cambridge sch.
4 Tweak the Constitution
9 Letterman's network
12 Fuss
13 Alamo hero with a knife named for him
14 Feedbag morsel
15 Part
17 Biz deg.
18 Commercials
19 Quartz variety
21 Baked potato's skin
24 Liniment target
25 Swelled head
26 Stitch
28 Esteem
31 Simple arithmetic
33 Sinbad's bird
35 — St. Vincent Mil-lay
36 Come to a point
38 Bankroll
40 Charged bit
41 Brewery products
43 New Jersey airport
45 OK for dieters
47 Parisian pal
48 Boxer Muhammad
49 ENIAC and its suc-cessors
54 Life story, for short
55 Judge, at times
56 Caustic solution
57 Male offspring
58 Logic
59 Doctor's due
Done
1 Buddy
2 Altar affirmative
3 Cruise or Selleck



- 4 Homes
5 Dr. Frankenstein's creation
6 Female sheep
7 Martial arts merce-nary
8 Remove (from)
9 Digests of a sort
10 Movie pig
11 Celebrity
16 Neighbor of Afgh.
20 Oxford, e.g.
21 Make jokes
22 Water (Sp.)
23 Chum
27 "Holy moley!"
29 — about (approxi-mately)
30 Hierarchy level
32 Narcissist's love
34 Finger food
37 Does a double-take
39 Coy
42 Emporium
44 Humor
45 Apprehends
46 Hodgepodge
50 60 sec.
51 Sprite
52 "Catcher in the —"
53 Witness

► Yesterday's answer



Today's horoscope

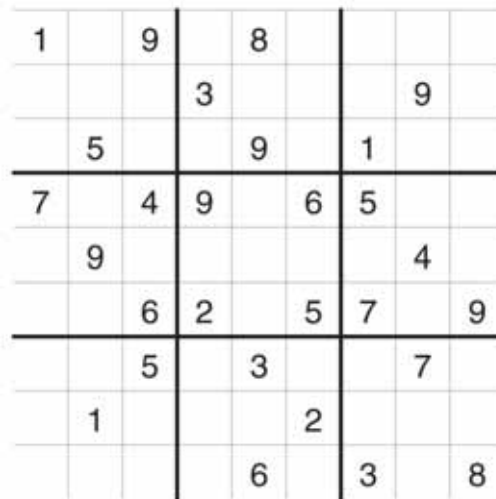
♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Although a lot of the time you don't take life too seriously, today something will strike you as of life or death importance. It isn't, so stop worrying.
♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Any-one who doubts your ambition is about to learn just how tough a Taurus can be.
♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You will need to trust someone else's judgment today.
♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Don't do everything at the last minute.
♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 You won't

hesitate to throw your weight around a bit if you think it will bring you the things you desire.
♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 You must listen carefully to both sides of the story you are currently being told.
♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Seek out people who know how to get the best out of life, who know how to have fun.
♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 No matter how far you may be behind in your schedule you can still get everything done that has to be done.
♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♐ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You may think that nothing is beyond you and no doubt you are right
♑ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Your problem? You think too much!
Times are good and about to get even better and those who say you should be cautious must be ignored.
♒ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. At some stage this week you are going to have to choose which is the more important to you: your private life or your career.
● SALLY BROMPTON

Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►



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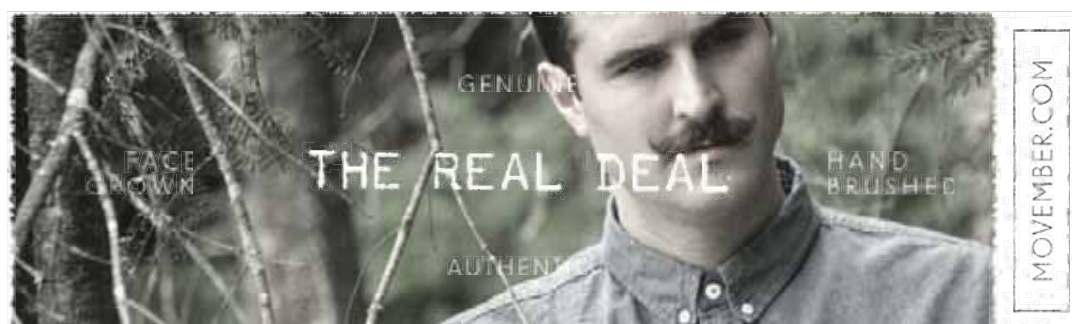
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Caption contest

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